

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 have been canceled. New claims 21-25 have been added. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Objection to the Specification, Drawings, and Claims:

The drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR § 1.84(p)(5) because they include reference signs not mentioned in the description. Also the drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR § 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include reference signs mentioned in the description. The drawings also stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR § 1.84(p)(5) because a reference character has been used to designate more than one portion of an element. The drawings also stand objected to under 37 CFR § 1.83(a) for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The drawings are also objected to due to other informalities listed by the Examiner.

Attached to this Amendment are proposed changes to the drawings marked in red ink. Original Figures 5 and 6 have been canceled. Reference to these drawings in the specification has been deleted per the above amendments to the specification. On Figure 2, reference letters F, L, V, and S have been added. Reference numerals 14A and 62 have been added. Reference numerals 15A and 22 have been corrected. On Figure 3, reference numeral L1 has been corrected, as well as the lead line for reference numeral 24. On Figure 4, reference letters S and H have been corrected. Reference numerals 34 and 48 have been corrected. Reference numeral 65 has been added. The section line for 5-5 has been deleted. These changes, in addition to corrections to the text, are believed to overcome the objections to the drawings.

The disclosure was also objected to due to numerous informalities. Further, the specification stands objected to under 37 CFR § 1.71 because of the numerous objections to the drawings and specification. Corrections have been made to the specification to comply with issues raised by the Examiner. These corrections are believed to overcome the objections to the disclosure.

The Examiner also objected that claims 16 and 20 may be substantial duplicates. Further, claims 2, 8-11 and 18 stand objected to for grammatical informalities.

Original claims 1-20 have been canceled. New claims 21-25 are presented with this amendment. Applicants respectfully request a full examination of claims 21-25 on the merits.

Rejection of the Claims Under 35 USC §112, first paragraph:

Claims 1-20 stand objected to as containing "subject matter which was not fully and clearly disclosed enough in the specification so as to allow one of ordinary skill in the art to make or practice the invention." Claims 1-20 have been cancelled, and claims 21-25 added. The new claims are believed to clarify the invention and be in a condition that will allow a full examination of the claims on the merits in view of the prior art.

Rejection of the Claims Under 35 USC §112, second paragraph:

Claims 1-20 stand objected to as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-20 have been cancelled, and claims 21-25 added. It is believed that the new claims overcome this rejection and do not render the claims as indefinite. No trademark is used in the new claims.

Conclusion:

A Petition For Extension Of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for five months to reply to the Notice of Non-responsive Amendment accompanies this Amendment.

In summary, the Applicant believes that each formal and substantive requirement has now been met. The applicant requests that all of the rejections and objections be withdrawn. The case is now believed to be in appropriate form for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application or resolve any further questions, such a call is invited to Applicant's attorney, whose direct line is (734) 542-0017.

A petition for Extension of Time for five months to respond to the Notice accompanies this Amendment. Furthermore, a Petition For Revival under 37 CFR 1.137(b), a Power of Attorney, a Revocation of Power of Attorney, and a Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) accompanies this Amendment.



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 11 with the following new paragraph:

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view of the assembled isolation mount. [; and]

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 17 with the following new paragraph:

As used herein, fore and aft mode shake means front to back movement or displacement which is along the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and transverse of the axis of a mount and is identified by the [letters F & A in Figure 3] letter F in Figure 2. Vertical mode shake means up and down movement or displacement which is along the axial axis of a mount and identified by the letter V in [Figures 4 and 6] Figure 2. Lateral mode shake means side to side movement or displacement that is transverse of the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and is perpendicular to the fore and aft mode shake and identified by the letter L in [Figure 6] Figure 2. Lateral shake stiffness is the displacement of a mount in the lateral mode shake direction divided by unit load. Vertical mode shake stiffness is the displacement of a mount in the vertical mode shake direction divided by unit load. Fore and aft shake stiffness is the displacement of a mount in the fore and aft mode shake direction divided by unit load. The desired lateral mode, fore and aft mode and vertical mode load versus displacement relationship for a vehicle is shown in Figure 1.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 6 with the following new paragraph:

An isolation mount according to the present invention is designated by the numeral 100 as shown in Figures 2-4 [2-6]. The mount 100 includes an elastomeric upper mount 10, an elastomeric lower mount 60 and a threaded fastener member 70.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 10 with the following new paragraph:

The upper mount 10 has a thimble member 26 with a flange portion 27 and an axially extending tubular portion 28. The mount 10 has a foamed elastomeric annular portion 14 which preferably has a top portion 14 with an inner diameter 16 and an outer diameter 18. The top portion has an axial length 15. Alternatively, the outer peripheral surface of the annular portion 14 may take any shape that can be used in the application, such as square, rectangular, polygonal, conical, triangular, elliptical

or truncated conical or any other suitable shape. The annular portion 14 has an axially extending portion 20 which is a close but sliding fit into the hole H in the subframe [F] S. The axially extending portion 20 has an inner diameter 24 and a smaller outer diameter 22 than the outer diameter 18 of the annular portion 14. The axially extending portion 20 has an axial length [35] 25 that extends the axial length [L] L1 of the hole H in the subframe [F] S. The bottom [15] 15A of the annular portion 14 is placed adjacent the one side A of the subframe [F] S. The axially extending tubular portion 28 is preferably elliptical in shape. Alternatively, the portion 28 may be round, parabolic with rounded ends or any shape suitable for practicing the invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 1 with the following new paragraph:

An insert 30 is disposed in the annular portion 14 and in the axially extending portion 20. The inset 30 has an outer diameter 32 and an inner peripheral shape 34. The peripheral shape 34 is preferably elliptical with a major diameter [36] and a minor diameter [38] which is similar to the shape of the annular axially extending layer 48.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 6 with the following new paragraph:

The insert 30 has an annular flange portion 40 and an axially extending tube portion 42. Alternatively, the peripheral shape 34 may be parabolic with rounded ends or any other suitable shape that could be used in practicing the invention. The outer diameter 32 of the insert is larger than the outer diameter 22 of the axially extending portion 20. The tube portion 42 also has an axially extending length 45 which is normally the same as the length [L'] L of the hole H in the subframe [F] S for a purpose to be discussed later on. The thickness [44] of the tube portion 42 may vary radially. The thickness [44] is greatest adjacent to the axis of the minor diameter which corresponds to the direction of the lateral mode L and thinnest near the axis of the major diameter [38] which corresponds to the fore and aft mode F [& A]. The insert 30 is disposed in the upper mount 12 such that it extends along the free end of the tube portion 42 but the flange portion 40 is disposed in the annular portion 14. Thus, there is a radial elastomeric layer portion 46 between the bottom surface [15] 15A of the annular portion 14 and the bottom 41 of the flanged portion 40. Additionally, an annular axially extending elastomeric layer 48 is disposed against the elliptical inner peripheral shape 34 of the insert 30 and the tubular portion 28 of the thimble 26. The annular layer 48 has an elliptical shape.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 5 with the following new paragraph:

The elliptical shape of the layer 48 in the lateral displacement mode L provides an increased amount of volume of elastomer than a prior art round shaped layer, to absorb radial forces in the lateral mode direction L. This has two effects: 1) the large volume of elastomer provides the design engineer with another variable with which to tune the response of the mount to lateral displacement L to improve vehicle ride and handling characteristics; and 2) the larger volume of elastomer to absorb the lateral displacement forces to reduce stress in the elastomer. Thus, the elastomer has more area to absorb the force generated by the lateral displacement and as a result, the elastomer is exposed to a narrower range of material stress variations. Those skilled in the art will recognize that alternatively, the shape of the annular axially extending layer 48 and the tubular portion 28 of the thimble member and the peripheral shape 34 may be substantially parabolic in cross sectional area with rounded ends near the fore and aft, F [& A], displacement mode or oblong in cross section or oval in cross sectional shape or any other non-circular shape suitable for practicing the invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 20 with the following new paragraph:

The surface area of the tubular portion 28, in the lateral direction L, is preferably twice the surface area of the tubular portion 28 in the fore and aft direction F [& A]. Alternatively, the ration of surface area in the lateral direction L to surface area in the fore and aft direction F [& A] ranges from 1.05 to 4.0. The response of the mount to lateral forces is greater than the response to fore and aft forces, which is greater than the response to vertical forces. The vertical response ration is lower or softer than the lateral or force and aft response rates.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 3 with the following new paragraph:

The elastomeric lower mount 60 includes a lower annular portion 62. The annular portion 62 has an inner diameter 66 and an outer diameter of 64. A flat flanged annular member 68 is adjacent to the lower radial surface 65 of the lower annular portion 62. The inner diameter 66 is slightly greater than the outer diameter [24] 22 of the axially extending portion 20. The lower mount has an axial length 63. The length 63 and the length 15 may be equal to each other. Optionally, the ratio of length 63 divided by length 15 may be greater than 1.0 or less than 1.0 depending on the vertical response rate desired.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 18 with the following new paragraph:

The upper isolation member [20] 21 and the lower isolator member 60 are made of foamed elastomeric materials. Preferably, the member [20] 21, 60, respectively, are made of a foamed microcellular polyurethane material (MCU) which can be compression molded, cast or injection molded or processed by means well known in the prior art. Alternatively, the other foamed elastomers such as foamed fluorocarbon, foamed highly saturated nitrile, methyl acrylate acid polymer foam, silicone foam, EPDM foam, Neoprene® foam or the like and thermoplastic elastomers may be used in practicing the invention. Neoprene® is a registered trademark of DuPont.

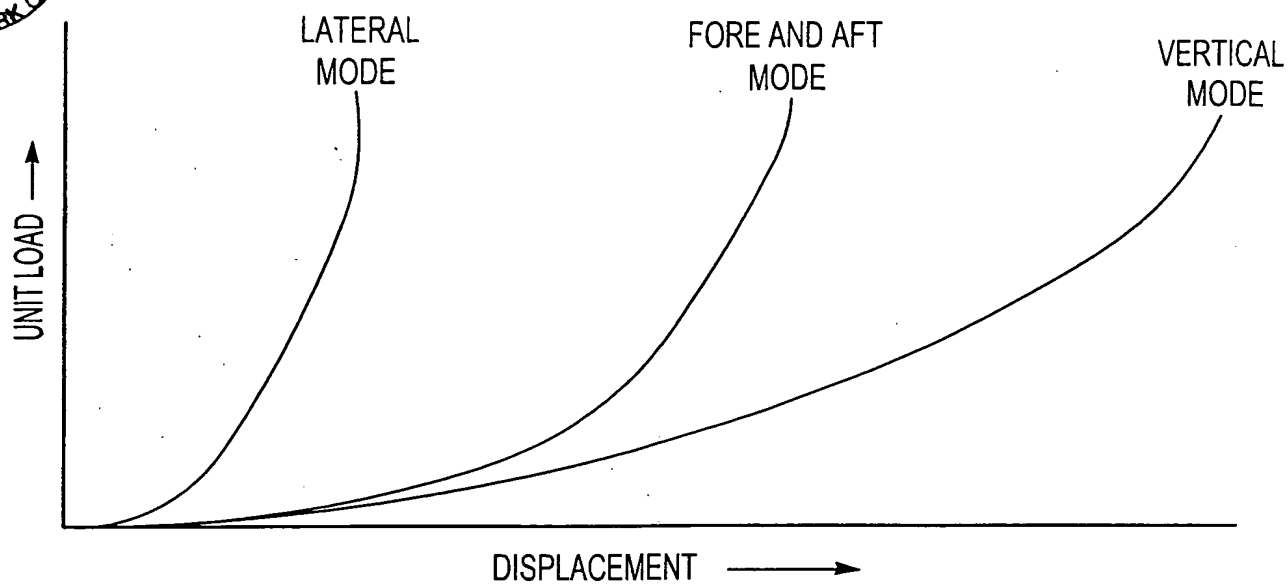
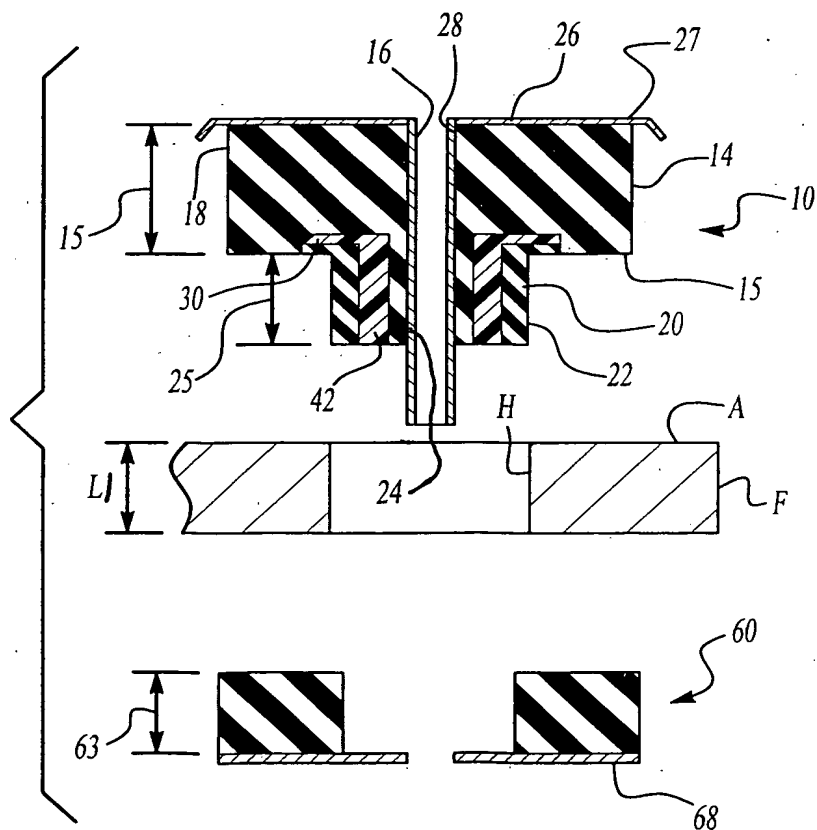


Fig-1

Fig-3



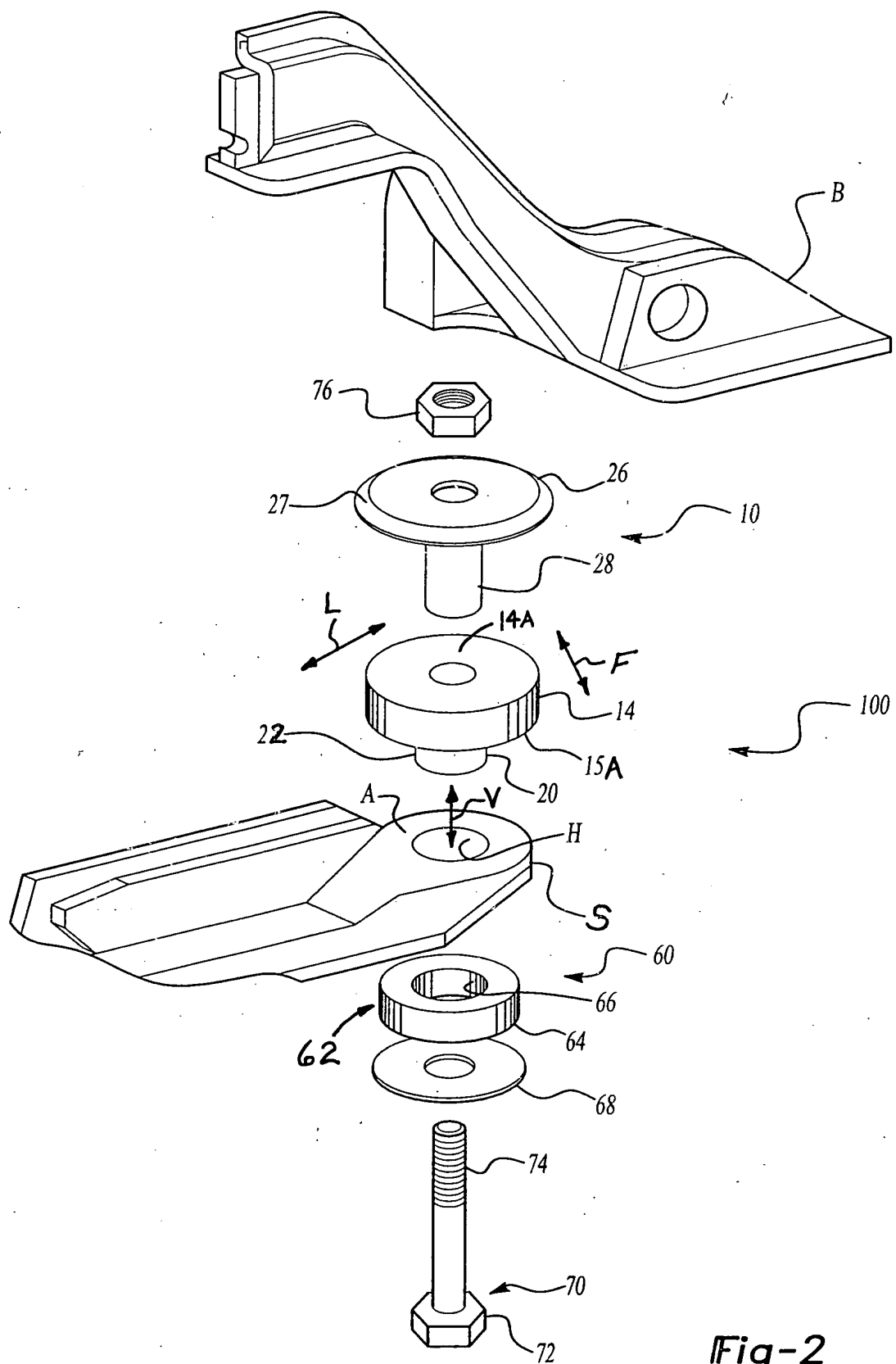
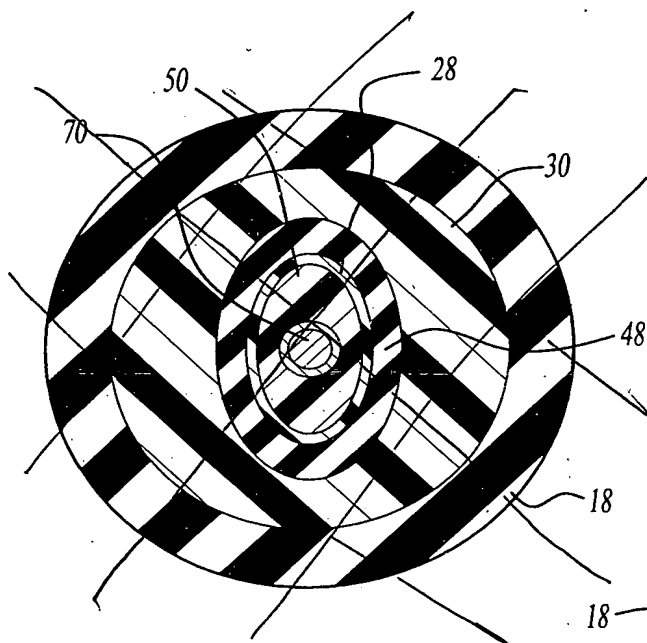
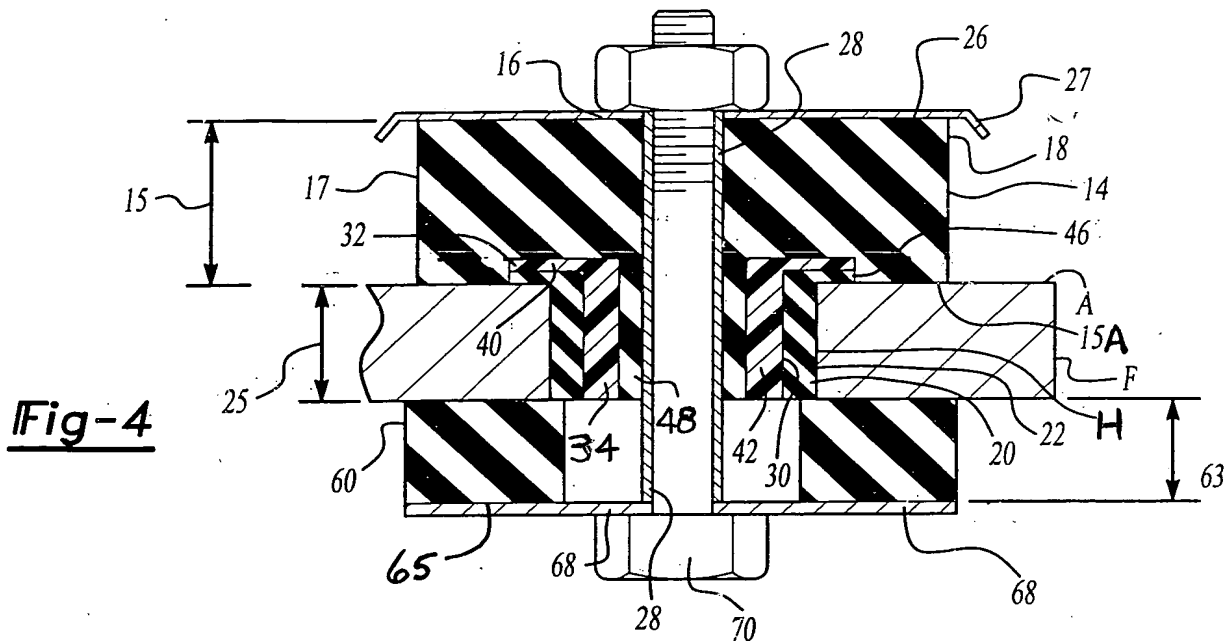


Fig-2



~~**Fig-5**~~

